This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A control plate for an axial piston machine having a generally kidney-shaped low-pressure control opening and at least one generally kidney-shaped high-pressure control opening that is opposed to the low-pressure control opening, ~~at least two control openings,~~ by means of which cylinder bores of a cylinder drum rotatably mounted in a housing are alternately connected, on rotation of the cylinder drum, to a high-pressure connection and a low-pressure connection, a through-opening being formed in the control plate, wherein:

a radially inner edge of the control plate is designed as a centering surface which centers the control plate on a centering body on the housing;

in that the centering surface is composed of a plurality of partial surfaces formed on segments of the inner edge of the control plate which extend radially inwardly into the through-opening and are separated by recesses; and

wherein a radial extension of the control plate is formed at an outer edge of the control plate only in the region of the entirety of the at least one high-pressure control opening that is connected to the high-pressure connection, and the radial extension of the control plate is formed over the entire region of the entirety of the at least one high-pressure control opening

that is connected to the high-pressure connection.

2. (Previously Presented) The control plate according to Claim 1, wherein the centering surface is composed of three partial surfaces distributed over the circumference of the inner edge of the control plate.

Claim 3. (Cancelled).

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

Claim 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) The control plate according to claim 1, wherein the thickness (t_1) of the control plate is reduced in the region of the centering surface and/or the radial extension as compared with the thickness (t_2) of a sealing surrounding area of the control openings.

Claim 7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) An ~~Axial~~ axial piston machine having a cylinder drum which is rotatably mounted in a housing and in which are formed cylinder bores in which pistons are axially displaceably arranged, and having a centering body connected to the housing, the cylinder bores having openings towards an end side of the cylinder drum, which, on rotation of the cylinder drum, are alternately in connection with a high-pressure connection and low-

pressure connection via [[at least two control openings]] a generally kidney-shaped low-pressure control opening and at least one generally kidney-shaped high-pressure control opening that is opposed to the low-pressure control opening of a control plate, the control plate having through-opening, wherein a radially inner edge of the control plate is designed as a centering surface which centers the control plate on a centering body formed on the housing and in that the centering surface is composed of a plurality of partial surfaces formed on segments of the inner edge of the control plate which extend radially inwardly into the through-opening and are separated by recesses, and wherein an outer radial extension of the control plate is formed at an outer edge of the control plate only in the region of the entirety of the at least one control opening that is connected to the high-pressure connection and the radial extension of the control plate is formed over the entire region of the entirety of the at least one high-pressure control opening that is connected to the high-pressure connection.

9. (Previously Presented) The axial piston machine according to Claim 8, wherein the centering surface is composed of three partial surfaces distributed over the circumference of the inner edge of the control plate.

10. (Previously Presented) The axial piston machine according to Claim 8, wherein the cylinder drum is arranged on a shaft in a manner fixed against relative rotation, the shaft being mounted in the housing on the side of the control plate, and the control plate being centered on an outer bearing race of a rolling bearing by the centering surface.

Claim 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) The axial piston machine according to claim 8, wherein at least one groove is provided in the region of a separating area on the side of the control plate facing away from the cylinder drum, which groove runs from at least one of the recesses of the inner edge of the control plate to the outer edge of the control plate and connects an inner leakage volume to an outer leakage volume.

14. (Previously Presented) The axial piston machine according to claim 8, wherein the end side of the cylinder drum and a sealing surrounding area, bearing thereon, of the control plate are essentially disk-shaped.

15. (Previously Presented) The control plate according to Claim 1, wherein a further recess is provided at the centering surface in order to receive a rotation-locking element.

16. (New) A control plate for an axial piston machine having at least two control openings, by means of which cylinder bores of a cylinder drum rotatably mounted in a housing are alternately connected, on rotation of the cylinder drum, to a high-pressure connection and a low-pressure connection, a through-opening being formed in the control plate, wherein:

a radially inner edge of the control plate is designed as a centering surface which centers the control plate on a centering body on the housing:

the centering surface being composed of three partial surfaces formed on three segments of the inner edge of the control plate which extend radially inwardly into the

through-opening, the segments being separated by three equally spaced recesses and within one said segment being provided a further smaller recess at the centering surface in order to receive a rotation-locking element.

17. (New) The control plate according to Claim 16, wherein the thickness (t_1) of the control plate is reduced in the region of the centering surface and/or the radial extension as compared with the thickness (t_2) of a sealing surrounding area of the control openings.

18. (New) The control plate according to Claim 16, wherein the radial extension of the control plate is formed at an outer edge of the control plate in the region of the at least one control opening connected to the high-pressure connection.

19. (New) An axial position machine having a cylinder drum which is rotatably mounted in a housing and in which are formed cylinder bores in which pistons are axially displaceably arranged, and having a centering body connected to the housing, the cylinder bores having openings towards an end side of the cylinder drum, which, on rotation of the cylinder drum, are alternately in connection with a high-pressure connection and low-pressure connection via at least two control openings of a control plate, the control plate having a through-opening, wherein a radially inner edge of the control plate is designed as a centering surface which centers the control plate on a centering body formed on the housing and;

in that the centering surface is composed of three partial surfaces formed on three segments of the inner edge of the control plate which extend radially inwardly into the through-opening, the segments being separated by three equal recesses and within one

segment being provided a further smaller recess at the centering surface in order to receive a rotation-locking element.

20. (New) The axial piston machine according to Claim 19, wherein the cylinder drum is arranged on a shaft so as to be fixed against relative rotation, the shaft being mounted in the housing on the side of the control plate, and the control plate being centered on an outer bearing race of a rolling bearing by the centering surface.

21. (New) The axial piston machine according to Claim 19, wherein at least one groove is provided in the region of a separating area on the side of the control plate facing away from the cylinder drum, which groove runs from at least one of the recesses of the inner edge of the control plate to the outer edge of the control plate and connects an inner leakage volume to an outer leakage volume.

22. (New) The axial piston machine according to Claim 19, wherein the end side of the cylinder drum, and a sealing surrounding area, bearing thereon, of the control plate are essentially disk-shaped.

23. (New) The axial piston machine according to Claim 19, wherein an outer radial extension of the control plate is formed at an outer edge of the control plate in the region of the at least one control opening connected to the high-pressure connection.